

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00892 020411Z  
ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 IGA-02 /080 W  
-----020733 104893 /22

R 011554Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3197

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 0892

DEPT PASS AID  
E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID, LE  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF HOUSING TEAM

ON FEB 20, THREE-MAN HOUSING TEAM, COMPOSED OF CHARLES DEAN, DANIEL COLEMAN AND ERIC PETERSON, ARRIVED AS SCHEDULED. FROM FEB 21-24, TEAM MEMBERS MET WITH CAMILLE KOBEH, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF COOPERATIVES, AND MARWAN MOHSEN, ACTING CHIEF OF SERVICES OF THE DIRECTORATE OF HOUSING, TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE \$4 MILLION HOME REPAIR GRANT AND REVIEW THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE \$15 MILLION HOUSING GUARANTY PROGRAM. ON FEB 24, THE TEAM MEMBERS, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DCM, CALLED ON DR. SALAH SALMAN, THE MINISTER OF HOUSING. MR. DEAN DEPARTED BEIRUT FOR WASHINGTON ON FEB 25; MR. COLEMAN IS SCHEDULED TO REMAIN UNTIL ABOUT MAR 11 AND MR. PETERSON UNTIL ABOUT APR 16 TO HELP DEVELOP PLANS FOR THE USE OF THE \$4 MILLION GRANT AND FOR THE PROJECT REVIEW PAPER FOR THE \$15 MILLION HOUSING GUARANTY.

2. ALTHOUGH THE GOL HAS WELCOMED OUR ASSISTANCE IN THE HOUSING FIELD, THE MINISTERS OF HOUSING AND FINANCE HAVE EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE THE HIGH INTEREST RATE (ABOUT 9 PERCENT) ATTACHED TO THE HOUSING GUARANTY. THE TEAM MEMBERS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN THAT THIS CREDIT IS ON VERY FAVORABLE TERMS WHEN COMPARED TO OTHER POTENTIAL SOURCES, SUCH AS THE  
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WORLD BANK. THE GOL COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IS NOW EXAMINING THE INTEREST RATE QUESTION AND WE HOPE TO HAVE THEIR FORMAL RESPONSE SOON.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HOUSING, VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977BEIRUT00892  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Subject:** VISIT OF HOUSING TEAM ON FEB 20, THREE-MAN HOUSING TEAM, COMPOSED OF CHARLES DEAN, DANIEL COLEMAN AND ERIC PETERSON, ARRIVED AS SCHED  
**TAGS:** EAID, LE  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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